Balasore-Jamsola four-lane road upto NH-5

*216. SHRI BHAGIRATHI MAJHI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that newly constructed four-lane road connecting NH-5, which was diverted from Balasore towards Lakhannath Gate *via* Jalasore, has been badly damaged during the month of October, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether there is any proposal of Government to construct four-lane road on NH-5 from Balasore towards Jamsola due to failure of the said lanes?

THE MINISTER FOR SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Due to unprecedented rainfall in Balasore district from 21st to 24th September, 2007 and the opening of the gates of Sunei, Kolo and Baldiha dams by the irrigation authorities, the entire length of NH-60 forming part of Golden Quardrilateral in Balasore district of Orissa was highly flooded, which severely damaged the approaches of bridge No.: 4/1 at km 3/170 and bridge No: 4/2 at km 3/370 on NH 60. After temporary restoration, the bridges were opened to traffic on one carriageway on 1st October 2007 with one way traffic. National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) is engaged M/s Water and Power Consultancy Services (WAPCOS) to study the adequacy of waterways provided in view of the observations made on the recent floods. Based on the study necessary corrective measures, if required, would be taken.

(c) No, Sir.

Permission to receive direct STD/ISD calls

†*217. SHRI ALI ANWAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has ever permitted telephone exchanges of BSNL to directly receive STD or ISD calls which are made through private telecom companies;

(b) whether it would not result in loss of revenue to Government;

(c) if not, whether telephone exchange situated in civil area of Allahabad was permitted in the year 2003 to receive STD/ISD calls of Reliance Infocom;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the estimated amount of loss of revenue to Government as a result thereof and the action proposed to be taken against the officials responsible for this?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Sir, Telephone exchanges of BSNL are permitted to directly receive STD/ISD calls made through private telecom companies, at the level of its SDCC Tandem, LDCC TAX and Level-1TAX depending upon the type of call and nature of service.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.